

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A communication system for exchanging electronic mail information ~~in accordance with an electronic mail address formed of a telephone number of a destination and a domain name of a destination telecommunication services operator~~, the system comprising:

a plurality of communication devices for inputting ~~thea~~ telephone number of ~~thea~~ destination and an identification number of ~~thea~~ destination telecommunication services operator and for communicating to the destination the electronic mail information using ~~thean~~ electronic mail address;

a storage device for storing a reference table in which the input identification number of the destination telecommunication services operator is correlated with the domain name of the destination telecommunication services operator; and

a communication management device for using the input identification number of the destination telecommunication services operator as an address for reading the domain name of the destination telecommunication services operator from the reference table, and for merging the input telephone number with the domain name read from the reference table to form the electronic mail address for sending the electronic mail information,

the electronic mail address having a local part and a domain part, the local part is separated from the domain part with an at mark symbol "@", and the local part includes the telephone number of the destination and the domain part includes the domain name of the destination telecommunication services operator without including the telephone number of the destination.

2. (Previously Presented) The communication system according to claim 1, wherein the reference table is automatically updated with a new domain name of the telecommunication services operator at a desired time.

3. (Previously Presented) The communication system according to claim 1, wherein the communication management device of the telecommunication services operator is connected to a communication management device of another telecommunication services operator through a communication network and transmits the electronic mail information to one of the plurality of communication devices that is line-connected to the other telecommunication services operator.

4. (Previously Presented) The communication system according to claim 1, wherein country information in addition

to the identification number is correlated with the domain name in the reference table stored in the storage device.

5. (Currently Amended) A communication device for exchanging electronic mail information ~~in accordance with an electronic mail address formed of a telephone number of a destination and a domain name of a destination telecommunication services operator~~, the device comprising:

an inputting unit for inputting ~~the~~a telephone number of ~~the~~a destination and an identification number of ~~the~~a destination telecommunication services operator;

a storage unit for storing a reference table in which the input identification number of the destination telecommunication services operator is correlated to the domain name of the destination telecommunication services operator; and

a controller that uses the input identification number of the destination telecommunication services operator inputted by the inputting unit as an address to read the domain name of the destination telecommunication services operator from the reference table, and for merging the input telephone number with the domain name read from the reference table to form the electronic mail address for sending the electronic mail information,

the electronic mail address having a local part and a domain part, the local part is separated from the domain part

with an at mark symbol "@", and the local part includes the telephone number of the destination and the domain part includes the domain name of the destination telecommunication services operator without including the telephone number of the destination.

6. (Previously Presented) The communication device according to claim 5, further comprising a rewriting mode for automatically updating the domain name of the telecommunication services operator stored in the reference table.

7. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the rewriting mode is activated at a desired time by the telecommunication services operator being updated.

8. (Currently Amended) A communication method of exchanging electronic mail information ~~in accordance with an electronic mail address formed of a telephone number of a destination and a domain name of a destination telecommunication services operator,~~ comprising the steps of:

producing a reference table in which an identification number of thea destination telecommunication services operator is correlated to thea domain name of thea destination telecommunication services operator; and

when transmitting the electronic mail information:

inputting ~~the~~a telephone number of the destination and the identification number of the destination telecommunication services operator;

using the inputted identification number of the destination telecommunication services operator as an address to read the domain name of the destination telecommunication services operator from the reference table; and

merging the inputted telephone number with the domain name read from the reference table to form the electronic mail address for sending the electronic mail information,

the electronic mail address having a local part and a domain part, the local part is separated from the domain part with an at mark symbol "@", and the local part includes the telephone number of the destination and the domain part includes the domain name of the destination telecommunication services operator without including the telephone number of the destination.

9. (Previously Presented) The communication method according to claim 8, wherein the reference table is updated according to a change in the domain name information of the destination telecommunication services operator.

10. (Previously Presented) The communication method according to claim 8, wherein country information in addition to

Application No.: 09/998,116

Docket No.: SONYJP 3.0-849

the identification number is correlated to the domain name
information in the reference table.